FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

13 JANUARY 1987

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi military statements broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio announced that Iraqi warplanes raided Qom, Esfahan, Dezful, Khorramabad, and Bakhtaran 13 January, asserting that this was in response to Iranian attacks, including a missile strike on Baghdad in which civilians were killed. Iran had launched the missile late 12 January in retaliation for the killing of hundreds of Iranian civilians in earlier Iraqi air and missile attacks, IRNA stated.

Iraqi air strikes 12 January had included raids on Kashan, Esfahan, Qom, Arak, Ilam, Tabriz, Dezful, and Bushehr, according to announcements carried by Voice of the Masses. Warplanes also hit three Iranian oil-pumping stations, a Hawk missile battery, and a maritime target in the Gulf. An Iraqi communique acknowledged the loss of two Iraqi planes in the 12 January raids on Iran, and an Iraqi spokesman cited by Voice of the Masses subsequently announced that Iraqi planes "challenged" Iran's antiaircraft missiles with attacks on five SAM sites 13 January.

IRNA stated that over 100 Iranian civilians were killed and over 400 were wounded in the 12 January air attacks on Iranian cities. The Iranian agency also reported that Iranian planes bombed various Iraqi cities 12 and 13 January. An Iraqi communique said that 24 Iraqi civilians were killed and 107 wounded in Iranian artillery and air attacks on Iraq 12 January. Baghdad radio's Persian service warned Iranian civilians to evacuate their cities because Iraq intends to bomb "all Iranian cities" in reprisal for Iranian attacks.

As for the military situation on the southern front, an Iraqi commander cited by Voice of the Masses said the Iranians sustained "very heavy losses" 11 January in an unsuccessful attempt to regain territory they had lost earlier. He spoke of "tens of thousands" of Iranian casualties, stating that the attacking Iranian forces are confined to a 10 sq km strip, where they are ceaselessly pounded by Iraqi artillery. The Iraqis also struck at Iranian rear positions in Khorramshahr with tactical surface-to-surface missiles 12 January, he disclosed. In contrast, IRNA claimed that Iranian forces crushed a counterattack personally directed by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. An Iranian communique broadcast by Tehran radio asserted that Iranian forces killed or wounded over 1,000 Iraqis during an advance west of Shalamcheh 12-13 January, adding that this brings total Iraqi casualties in Karbala 5 to 17,500.

In Kuwait, the daily *Al-Ra'y Al-'Amm* reported that Egypt began airlifting weapons and ammunition to Iraq over the weekend, revealing that an Egyptian military delegation visited Baghdad in connection with the airlift, according to KUNA.

Libya

Peace Call on Gulf War — Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio reported a statement by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in which the Libyan leader urged Iran and Iraq to listen to reason and stop the "madness" of the Gulf war. Wisdom must replace "mutual hysteria," which has "destroyed any bridge to the past regarding who is the transgressor and who was transgressed against."

Chad Conflict — Libyan Forces attacked Chadian and French troops 11 January at a military base in Kalait, in a French-defended sector of eastern Chad, according to a French Defense Ministry statement cited by AFP. The ministry said there were no French casualties in the Libyan attack. The report was dismissed by JANA's political commentator, who denied any Libyan role in the attack and claimed the operation was carried out by GUNT forces.

Lebanon

French journalist Roger Auque was kidnapped in West Beirut 13 January after returning from a meeting with Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite, AFP reported. Waite had arrived in the Lebanese capital the previous day seeking the release of foreign hostages, the agency noted.

The clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio disclosed that one person was killed and nine were wounded in the 12 January Israeli air raid near Sidon. Meanwhile, another landmine explosion in the south injured two IDF soldiers, according to Jerusalem radio. Regarding relations between Israel and UNIFIL, Israeli officials expressed "profound regrets" to the Irish Government over the killing of an Irish UNIFIL soldier, and they said the IDF officer responsible may be dismissed, according to AFP. However, UNIFIL spokesman Timor Goksel accused Israel and the SLA of "deliberately" firing at UNIFIL positions, the agency added.

As for the camps war, an Iranian Foreign Ministry communique broadcast by Tehran radio urged all concerned parties to respond positively to Iran's efforts to end the fighting and to pledge to implement the cease-fire plan. Members of the seven-member Arab League committee arrived in Damascus 12 January to begin mediation efforts to end the Amal-Palestinian conflict, Algiers radio noted.

Syria

Syria will participate in the upcoming ICO summit conference in Kuwait, Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam declared in a statement to the UAE's *Al-Ittihad* reported by WAKH. Damascus radio noted that Khaddam arrived in the PRC 12 January at the start of a 7-day official visit.

Jordan, Egypt

Jordan's King Husayn began official talks with French President Francois Mitterrand in Paris 12 January, Amman television reported. An AFP report on Husayn's visit indicated that he wants France and its EEC partners to persuade the United States of the need to hold an international conference on the Middle East.

In Cairo, *Al-Akhbar* expressed "strong dismay" over U.S. envoy Richard Murphy's opposition to an international conference, MENA reported, noting the paper's view that this "incomprehensible" U.S. stand "corresponds strictly" to Israel's position.

Israel

The cabinet agreed to devalue the shekel by 10 percent, increase prices of some subsidized goods, and cut the budget by around 400 million shekels, Jerusalem radio reported. The Defense Ministry budget will not be cut.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 008 *13 January 1987*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

PAKISTAN

UAE President Arrives in Karachi 11 Jan ..... F 1
Kabul Cease-Fire Offer Merits 'Scrutiny' *[DAWN 5 Jan]* ..... F 1
Protest Lodged Over Afghan Air Violation ..... F 1
Kabul Protests of Air Violations 'Rejected' ..... F 1

OTHER COUNTRIES

SRI LANKA

Security Minister on Operations in Jaffna ..... G 1
LTTE Leader Said Back in Jaffna From Madras *[DAILY NEWS 2 Jan]* ..... G 1
Delhi Reports 'About 12,000' Vacate Jaffna ..... G 1

IRAN

Turkish Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Visits ..... I 1
Conveys Invitation to Musavi ..... I 1
Conveys Message to Velayati ..... I 1
Says Visit 'Satisfactory'; Leaves ..... I 1
Romania's Deputy Prime Minister Arrives ..... I 1
Holds Talks With Zanjani ..... I 1
Views Cooperation With Mirzadeh ..... I 2
Talks With Commerce Minister ..... I 2
Says Ready To Conclude Agreements ..... I 2
Meets Oil, Heavy Industries Officials ..... I 2
Conveys Message to Khamene'i ..... I 2
Meets With Deputy Prime Minister ..... I 3
Talks With Agriculture Minister ..... I 3
Discusses Trade With Musavi ..... I 3
Sees Velayati; Meets Zanjani Again ..... I 3
Montazeri Telegrams Support to Attacked Cities ..... I 4
Karbala-5 Said To Belie Anti-Tehran Propaganda ..... I 4
Clandestine Radio Comments ..... I 4
Further on Combat Operations, Karbala 5 ..... I 4
Iraqi Commander on 'Smashed' Brigade ..... I 4
Iraqi Aircraft Bomb Ilam Twice ..... I 5
Iraqi Installations Bombed ..... I 5
2d Missile Fired at Baghdad ..... I 5
Further on Missile Attack ..... I 5
Iraq Warned of 'Crushing Blows' ..... I 5
Fighters Bomb Three Iraqi Cities ..... I 5
Iraqis Raid Esfahan; Kill 1 ..... I 5
Iraqi Presidential Guard 'Smashed' ..... I 6
Iraqi Brigade 68 'Totally Smashed' ..... I 6
Communique No 8 Issued ..... I 6
Iraqis Bomb More Residential Areas ..... I 6
IRNA Reports 12 Jan Operations ..... I 6
3 Iraqi Counterattacks 'Routed' ..... I 7
10 Killed in Eslamabad-e Gharb Raid ..... I 7
Gunships Destroy Iraqi 'Headquarters' ..... I 7

33d Iraqi Plane Downed ..... I 7
34th Iraqi Plane Downed; Pilot Held ..... I 7
'Over 100' Killed in Iraqi Raids ..... I 7
Combatants Liberate Shalamcheh Areas ..... I 8
Shalamcheh Outposts 'Taken Over' ..... I 8
Forces Advance 10 KM Toward Basra ..... I 8
Defense Lines East of Basra Fall ..... I 8
Communiques Detail Recent Combat Operations ..... I 8
No 2,711 ..... I 8
No 2,712 ..... I 9
No 2,713 ..... I 9

UAE President Arrives in Karachi 11 Jan

BK111140 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 11 Jan 87

[Text] The president of the United Arab Emirates, Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, arrived in Karachi today. At the airport he was received, among others, by the Sind governor, Mr Ashraf Wali Mohammad Tabani.

Kabul Cease-Fire Offer Merits 'Scrutiny'

BK091449 Karachi DAWN in English 5 January 87 p 5

[Editorial: "A Hasty Reaction"]

[Text] The rejection by the U.S. and the Afghan Mujahidin of the Kabul regime's offer of a ceasefire in the seven-year-old armed conflict would appear to many as unduly hasty and based on a prejudgment rather than on an objective consideration of the offer. Almost everyone interested in a political settlement of the long drawn-out conflict would have wished the reaction to be formulated with greater care and circumspection, particularly because of the wider context and stipulations of the new move. The offer merits careful scrutiny if only because there is no other way one can be reasonably sure whether it is meant seriously or is a ploy to mislead the world opinion and gain time for consolidation. On the face of it, there are new and promising elements in it. Let us look at the offer the way it has come from Kabul. First, there is to be a ceasefire between the Kabul regime and the various groups of resistance fighters as from January 15. This is to form part of what Kabul calls a policy of 'national reconciliation', envisaging a dialogue with all political forces now opposing the regime, including centralists and monarchists, as well as "leaders of antigovernment groups operating abroad". Secondly, there is an assurance of "just representation" to all sections of the people in the political structure and economy, guarantees against persecution for previous political activities, a general amnesty and 'respect for Islamic tradition'. The offer has followed some peaceable signals from Moscow since the change of leadership in the Kremlin.

The most significant of these was Mr Gorbachev's declaration in New Delhi in November that the Soviet Union was in favour of an "independent and non-aligned Afghanistan" and his acknowledgement of the "right of the Afghan people to choose their own form of government". This, coupled with other indications from the Soviet side, underlined a new stance on the Afghan crisis and a desire to try to resolve the conflict in a flexible spirit. It is significant to note that if the Soviets have shown some willingness to make concessions to promote a settlement, the ceasefire package contains elements which Kabul's adversaries, including the Mujahidin and the U.S., have been consistently asking for. But an important leader of the Mujahidin has explained the rejection by saying that "the Russians just want to show themselves peace-loving...." If it is so, why let Kabul or Moscow get away with a good looking public relations stunt? Would it not be more realistic to call the bluff by putting it to the test. The best way to do so would be to accept the offer at face value, instead of rejecting it out of hand, and put the bonus on the other side to prove that it means what it says. If Kabul, or Moscow, is eventually found wanting, the point will have been made — both will stand exposed before the world opinion for their insincerity and deception.

So far as Pakistan is concerned, the Foreign Minister has taken the clear position that his country will reciprocate the "positive" change in the Soviet Union's attitude on Afghanistan. In view of this, the least that could have been expected of the Mujahidin, and the U.S., was to consult Pakistan before making their response to the ceasefire offer public. After all, Pakistan is not an unconcerned party in this complicated affair. Our involvement in the Afghan conflict has cost us very dearly in both political and economic terms. The involvement has reached a point where our political and security interests might be put at greater risk if a settlement is inordinately delayed. This fact should not have been lost; on the U.S. or the Mujahidin. There are, of course, many irons in the fire. But unilateral action simply cannot help either in clarifying matters or in promoting the cause of a political settlement; it cannot be an extension of our hospitality to the Mujahidin or of our friendly relations with the U.S. Our Foreign Office should lose no time in bringing home this important point to the relevant quarters. Some modification of the initial negative response may be possible even now. For instance, the Mujahidin might yet be persuaded to decide not to fire unless fired upon and at least observe the spirit of the ceasefire and see what happens. In any case, the Mujahidin, the U.S., and Pakistan have to accept the discipline of one fact. It is idle to think that the Soviets can be pushed out of Afghanistan by whatever trouble the Mujahidin are capable of causing to them and the Kabul regime. They simply won't leave without negotiating the terms of their withdrawal. If a negotiated settlement is the only option there is, everyone concerned with the conflict should wish it to happen sooner than later. Seen from this angle, a ceasefire, if it is genuine, may well prove to be a stepping stone to an acceptable settlement. In any case, without prejudging its worth, the offer deserves to be carefully examined before adopting a clear-cut position on it.

Protest Lodged Over Afghan Air Violation

BK121617 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Four Afghan fighter aircraft penetrated into Pakistan's airspace by 3 km on the 7th of this month and dropped four bombs in the area of (Setgai) in the north Waziristan Agency. One Afghan refugee was killed. A strong protest has been launched with the Afghan charge d'affaires.

Kabul Protests of Air Violations 'Rejected'

BK111624 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 11 Jan 87

[Text] Pakistan has rejected the Kabul authorities' protest alleging that Pakistan Air Force had violated Afghan airspace in Nangarhar and Paktia Provinces last month and again this month. It has also rejected the Kabul protest alleging that Pakistani Armed Forces had fired a number of rockets at Barikowt village in Konarha Province last month. The Afghan charge d'affaires who was summoned to the Foreign Office today in Islamabad was told that the allegations had been investigated and were found to be baseless.

SRI LANKA

Security Minister on Operations in Jaffna

BK091105 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 9 Jan 87

[Text] The Ministry of National Security announced that the security forces yesterday destroyed bunkers built by terrorists at Point Pedro. Minister Athulathmudali told the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation that the troops which launched the attack returned to base without any loss. The security forces ventured out of the Jaffna Fort camp on patrols yesterday and the day before. During these patrols which were undertaken to clear the area of terrorists, the forces were able to reestablish possession of the telephone exchange, the television station, and the chest clinic at Jaffna which were earlier occupied by the separatists.

LTTE Leader Said Back in Jaffna From Madras

BK091728 Colombo DAILY NEWS in English 2 Jan 87 pp 1, 10

[By Srimal Abeyewardene]

[Text] A security alert has been sounded in the north yesterday following hot information that LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] leader Velupillai Prabhakaran is back in Jaffna after an absence of four years. Reports reaching Colombo said that the LTTE leader, accompanied by a number of key associates, had made the crossing from south India a few days ago.

Along with Prabhakaran's reported arrival here, the LTTE has been making noises about setting up a secretariat in the north. A spokesman for the group told REUTERS news agency on Wednesday that they planned to levy business turnover tax, issue vehicle licences, run a transport service, and issue postage stamps.

The Hindu, the South Indian newspaper with close contacts to the armed Tamil groups, speculated earlier this week about possible differences between Prabhakaran and the LTTE's field commanders in the north following last week-end's visit to Jaffna of a team from Colombo for a direct dialogue with the Tigers. Some sources believe that if Prabhakaran has actually arrived in Jaffna, his decision may have been influenced by the reported differences between himself and his Jaffna commanders.

The LTTE and other armed Tamil groups which have long enjoyed the hospitality of Tamil Nadu have been under pressure in India following the recent arms and communications equipment seizure by the Indian police. Although the communications equipment was later returned, the police continue to hold the terrorists' arms worth several million rupees. The haul included sophisticated weapons like shoulder launched surface-to-air missiles (SAM's).

Security forces said that there was no hard confirmation that Prabhakaran was now in Sri Lanka although intelligence suggested that he may have landed at Madagal along the Jaffna coast a few days ago.

The possibility of the LTTE moving to legitimise itself and prepare for a solution of the present conflict through a provincial councils package was strengthened yesterday by a report in a Jaffna newspaper which quoted the Tigers' northern commander, Kittu, saying that they planned to set up a political party to press their demands. Sathasivam Krishnakumar, or Kittu as he is better known in the North, said in an interview with the *Udayan* newspaper that the party will press for an independent Tamil state. Kittu had said that details of the party will be announced later this month. They expected to call the party Tamil Eelam Liberation Tigers People's Front.

Other reports reaching Colombo said that the Madras police were investigating contacts between the LTTE and a foreign agency. Prabhakaran was active in the north some years ago as a junior member of TELO [Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization] then led by Kuttimani. This group was responsible for several armed robberies in the north including the Neerveli holdup. Prabhakaran and his archrival Uma Maheswaran were involved in a shootout in the Pondy Bazaar in Madras in 1982 when both men were arrested but later bailed out. Former IGP [Inspector General of Police] Rudra Rajasingham flew to Madras two days after the arrest in an unsuccessful effort to secure their extradition to Sri Lanka where they were wanted in connection with several armed holdups and killings.

Delhi Reports 'About 12,000' Vacate Jaffna

BK120425 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] In Sri Lanka, about 12,000 people have vacated Jaffna town as a result of the fuel crunch and the uncertain security situation for the last 10 days. Our Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majumder, says traders have removed most of their merchandise from the shops. The main bazaar is almost closed for the last couple of days. [sentence as heard] It may be recalled that the Sri Lankan Government had banned fuel supplies to the northern peninsula following the move by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, LTTE, to take over civil administration. Our correspondent says although the government claims that adequate supply of fuel for ambulances, drugs, oxygen, and firewood has been ensured, the residents complained that hospital services have got [as heard] affected. Most of the bakeries have closed down for want of firewood. Transporters said lorries carrying essential items have lined up at various checkpoints along the Colombo-Jaffna route. Government sources have said that the fuel embargo will continue until the LTTE gives up its plan of setting up civil administration in the peninsula and agree for negotiations.

Meanwhile, at least four persons, including two soldiers belonging to the Sri Lankan Army's special task force, were killed and three commandos injured in a clash between militants of the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front and the security forces at Pandiruppu near Batticaloa on Saturday.

Turkish Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Visits

LD101033 Tehran IRNA in English 1006 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 10, IRNA — The Turkish deputy foreign minister, [title as received] Nuzhet Kandemir, heading a delegation arrived in Tehran Saturday morning and was welcomed by Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for International Affairs Mohammad Javad Larijani.

The Turkish delegation will discuss with Iranian officials issues of mutual interest, the Iraqi-imposed war, and the forthcoming summit of the Islamic Conference Organisation.

The trip of Kandemir is in response to a visit to Turkey of deputy for Political Affairs of the Iranian Foreign Ministry, Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam.

Conveys Invitation to Musavi

LD102010 Tehran IRNA in English 1752 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 10, IRNA — Turkey's Deputy Foreign Minister Nuzhet Kandemir met with Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi here Saturday and presented him an invitation from his Turkish counterpart Turgut Ozal to visit that country.

At the meeting, Musavi mentioned the need for expansion of relations between Iran and Turkey and stated that the Islamic Republic highly respects the beliefs of Muslims. He added that respect for Muslims' beliefs and values can play a key role in expansion of Tehran-Ankara relations.

Prime Minister Musavi expressed hope that he would visit Turkey at a convenient occasion.

The Turkish official arrived here on Saturday morning at the head of a delegation.

Conveys Message to Velayati

LD102013 Tehran IRNA in English 1859 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 10, IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said here Saturday that there is no way for ending the war save that a popular government comes to power in Iraq which he said, would also be to the benefit of all regional countries.

Velayati made the remarks in a meeting with visiting Turkish Deputy Foreign Minister Nuzhet Kandemir, in which the Turkish official conveyed to Velayati a verbal message from his Turkish counterpart Ismat Vahit Halefoglu.

On change of venue of the upcoming summit of the Islamic Conference Organization (ICO), Velayati stated that as the war is raging within a few kilometers from the Kuwaiti border, the holding of such an important conference in Kuwait is not logical. Moreover, he added, Kuwait has proved during the war that it is not prepared to give up backing the Baghdad government.

The Turkish official in reply said that some are worried over the expansion of relations between Iran and Turkey. But, he added, the Turkish Government will never allow anybody to hatch plots against the interests of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Says Visit 'Satisfactory'; Leaves

NC110818 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 11 Jan 87

[Excerpt] According to the Central News Unit, Turkish Deputy Foreign Minister Nuzhet Kandemir left Tehran early this morning after a 1-day visit and talks with Iranian officials. Prior to his departure, he described his visit as satisfactory, saying: In my meetings with officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran, we discussed topics of mutual interest and regional issues. [passage omitted]

Romania's Deputy Prime Minister Arrives

Holds Talks With Zanjani

LD081533 Tehran IRNA in English 1521 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 8, IRNA — Visiting Deputy Prime Minister of Romania Dimitrie Ancuta held the first round of talks with Iran's Minister of Plan and Budget Ma'sud Roghani Zanjani, here Thursday.

At the meeting, the Iranian minister referring to the Iran-Romania protocol signed in 1986, said that the expected volume of trade exchanges as per the protocol totaled dlrs. 1.5 billion [as received] including the export of Iranian oil and non-oil goods to Romania. However, due to the oil price slump, the target set in the protocol was unfortunately not achieved, Zanjani added.

Zanjani outlining Iran's policy for expansion of trade and economic relations said that after the victory of the Islamic Revolution, priority has been given to strengthening of relations with the Muslim countries, the Third World and also anti-imperialist states. In view of this Tehran-Bucharest relations have considerably expanded.

Recalling that the volume of trade exchanges between the two countries was only dlrs. 150 m. during the first years of the Islamic Revolution, Zanjani noted that the amount exceeded the dlrs. one billion [as received] mark a few years after. The slight reduction over the past two years is due to the plots hatched by global arrogance for an artificial oil price slump, remarked Zanjani, adding that Iran's determination coupled with OPEC's success have thwarted these plots. Zanjani also stressed the Islamic Republic of Iran's priority to expert non-oil goods.

The Iranian minister expressed hope that talks with the visiting Romanian delegation would achieve the target envisaged in the protocol and to the two sides would be able to solve the existing problems.

The Romanian deputy premier expressed satisfaction with his visit to Iran and termed it as a sign of his country's willingness to expand relations with Iran. Ancuta stressed that the two countries can have fruitful cooperation in the predetermined

industrial programs, including car manufacturing, power generation, and trade affairs.

The Romanian official further pointed out that Romania's policy for cooperation with other countries is based on non-interference in others' internal affairs, recognizing the independence of the others, and safeguarding bilateral interests. Tehran-Bucharest relations have been formed on this basis, he noted.

The Romanian official is carrying a verbal message for Iran's President 'Ali Khamene'i from his Romanian counterpart Nicolae Ceausescu. Ancuta arrived here Wednesday night at the head of a delegation.

Views Cooperation With Mirzadeh

LD091627 Tehran IRNA in English 1255 GMT 9 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 9, IRNA — Visiting Romanian deputy prime minister, Dimitrie Ancuta, met with his Iranian counterpart Mirzadeh, here Thursday and discussed bilateral [as received] in economic, political, and cultural cooperation.

Ancuta who arrived here Wednesday night at the head of a delegation called for a comprehensive review of ways to expand relations between the two countries. Romania is ready to purchase up to three million tons of Iranian crude oil annually from Iran in return for Romanian goods, Ancuta said.

The Romanian official called for the implementation of a 1986 economic cooperation protocol and proposed long-term cooperation in economic, commercial, cultural, and scientific fields. He invited Mirzadeh to pay a visit to Romania which was accepted, for the earliest opportune moment.

Reiterating Iran's policy in giving priority to establishing relations with anti-imperialist countries, Mirzadeh who is in charge of executive affairs, called for the expansion of Tehran-Bucharest ties. He expressed hope that the visit of the Romanian delegation to Iran would provide an opportunity to explore new avenues for broadening bilateral cooperation.

Talks With Commerce Minister

LD101428 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the deputy prime minister of the Socialist Republic of Romania, in his meeting today with Commerce Minister Ja'fari, described the aims of his visit to Iran as being to discuss the expansion of all-round relations and the strengthening of commercial links between the two countries.

He considered that his talks with other officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran had been beneficial, and added: Romania is prepared to buy nonoil products from Iran in addition to oil. Mr Ja'fari, commenting on economic policies that aim at self-sufficiency, stated: With the country's new economic program which was prepared following the international conspiracy to lower the price of oil, we will try to remove the problems that stand in our path. At the end of this meeting the commerce minister called for a continuation of the talks, the elimination of existing deficiencies, and the working out of new solutions to expand commercial relations between the two countries.

Says Ready To Conclude Agreements

LD101650 Tehran IRNA in English 1518 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 10, IRNA — Visiting Romanian Deputy Prime Minister Dimitrie Ancuta announced his country's readiness to conclude long-term industrial-economic agreements with the Islamic Republic of Iran in a meeting with Iran's minister of industries, Gholam-Reza Shafe'i, here Saturday.

The Iranian minister stressed at the meeting that Romania should increase the volume of its non-oil imports from Iran so that Tehran-Bucharest relations would expand. Shafe'i pointed out that Iran wants Romania to provide it raw materials for its factories.

It was also decided at the meeting that experts of the two countries would follow discussions on bilateral economic cooperation.

Ancuta arrived in Tehran on Jan 8 at the head of a delegation.

Meets Oil, Heavy Industries Officials

LD102241 Tehran IRNA in English 1823 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 10, IRNA — Romania's purchase of Iranian crude oil were discussed in a meeting between visiting Romanian Deputy Prime Minister Dimitrie Ancuta and Iran's Minister of Oil Gholam Reza Aqazadeh, here Saturday. The two sides mutually agreed that existing trade cooperation between the Islamic Republic and Romania provided favourable grounds for strengthening bilateral relations. Both sides also emphasised on the need to continue such cooperation.

Iran's Oil Ministry announced that Romania's likely purchase of two million tons of crude oil annually will be discussed in future talks between experts of the two countries.

Meanwhile, the Romanian deputy premier conferred with Iranian Minister of Heavy Industries Behzad Nabavi, on the same day. The two sides expressed hope that Tehran-Prague [as received] cooperation would further expand in the field of heavy industries especially in the manufacturing of tractors. Also stressed at the meeting was expansion of industrial relations between Iran and Romania. Ancuta arrived here on Jan 8 at the head of a high-ranking economic delegation.

Conveys Message to Khamene'i

LD111535 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Jan 87

[Text] Today President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i received the deputy prime minister of the Socialist Republic of Romania, who has travelled to Tehran heading a high-ranking political del-

egation to deliver a note from Nicolae Ceausescu. At the meeting the Romanian deputy premier delivered the message, conveying warmest greetings to his exellency the imam, the president, and the people of Iran, as well as [wishing for] an expansion in bilateral relations. Further in the message, the Romanian president once again invited Khamene'i to visit that country.

Thanking the deputy prime minister for the friendly and warm message from the president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Khamene'i expressed satisfaction at expansion and diversification of the two sides. Noting the fact that the Islamic Republic of Iran, because of its prominent geographical location and its rare natural, unlimited, and aware human resources, has the capability of turning the country into a strong manufacturing country, he stated: As you are aware, we have a colossal task of economic, technological, and restructuring ahead of us, during which we will invite those countries where no trace of exploitation can be seen [to participate].

Stressing the need for the expansion of economic relations side by side with political relations, the president added: In his invitation, Nicolae Ceausescu referred to important world issues, noting that we must strengthen and confuct further discussions and compare views between the two countries when dealing with important global issues. As for the problem of the imposed war, the president commented: Today, in the world arena no one can be found who has not acknowledged Iraq as the instigator of the war; although, at the beginning of the war, many countries were not ready to condemn and criticize the Iraqi regime for its aggression.

In conclusion, the president stressed: In our view, any form of discussion over the war must be realized on the basis of justice because justice is a virtue above peace. You can see that many people and governments are struggling to bring justice.

Meets With Deputy Prime Minister

LD112326 Tehran IRNA in English 1813 GMT 11 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 11, IRNA — Visiting Romanian Deputy Prime Minister Dimitrie Ancuta met with Iran's deputy premier and head of Mostaz'afan (oppressed) Foundation, Tahmaseb Mazaheri, here Sunday and conferred on ways the two countries could jointly cooperate.

At the meeting Mazaheri announced the foundation's preparedness to export mineral ores as well as dried fruits and citrus to Romania on a barter exchange basis. He also said the foundation was willing to process Romania's raw materials in the units of the foundation and re-export them to that country. The Iranian official stressed that expansion of cooperation between the two countries on the one hand and Romania's cooperation with the foundation on the other can be a good start on the first joint project.

The Romanian deputy premier in reply elaborated on his country's experiences and facilities which could be put at the service of Iran and said his country was ready to pursue cooperation with the Mostaz'afan Foundation. Ancuta said that a Romanian expert delegation will be dispatched to Tehran within the next 30 days to follow up talks between Romania and the foundation.

The Romanian deputy premier arrived in Tehran Wednesday night at the head of a delegation.

Talks With Agriculture Minister

LD112334 Tehran IRNA in English 1830 GMT 11 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 11, IRNA — Visiting Romanian Deputy Prime Minister Dimitrie Ancuta called for expansion of Tehran-Bucharest relations, particularly in industrial and agricultural fields, in a meeting with Iranian Agriculture Minister 'Abbas-'Ali Zali here Sunday.

Ancuta also announced his country's desire to purchase Iranian agricultural products as well as cooperate with Iran in manufacturing tractors and other agricultural equipment. The Romanian deputy premier also suggested that Iran and Romania prepare long-term programs for boosting mutual cooperation.

In response, Zali said that Iran-Romania commercial and agricultural relations have remarkably expanded since the victory of the 1979 Islamic Revolution. The agriculture minister also called on Romania to take measures to transfer technical knowledge to Iran.

Discusses Trade With Musavi

LD121330 Tehran IRNA in English 1231 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 12, IRNA — Visiting Romanian Deputy Prime Minister Dimitrie Ancuta met with Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi, here Monday. During the meeting Ancuta invited the prime minister to pay an official visit to Romania. The Romanian deputy premier stressed on the setting-up of a trade experts commission to boost the Tehran-Bucharest commercial relations.

Musavi thanked the Romanian official and emphasized the necessity of promoting long term trade relations. He also said frequent contacts between the two sides were needed for establishment of these ties.

The prime minister outlined the various fields in which the two countries can expand bilateral relations and called on Romania to actively follow up the trade accords.

Sees Velayati; Meets Zanjani Again

LD121632 Tehran IRNA in English 1618 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 12, IRNA — Visiting Romanian Deputy Premier Dimitrie Ancuta met Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati here Monday morning, and conferred on regional issues, including occupied Palestine. The two sides also stressed on the need for mutual cooperation and expansion of Tehran-Bucharest ties at international forums.

Velayati remarked that since the Zionist state of Israel is hated by all Muslims and progressive countries of the Third World, relations of certain countries with the Zionist entity will certainly damage their credibility among Muslims.

Meanwhile, the second round of talks between the Romanian official and Minister of Plan and Budget Ma'sud Roghani Zanjani was held here Monday afternoon. At the meeting the two sides conferred on Iran's non-oil export to Romania, including concentrated lead and zinc. An amendment was attached to the signed protocol on future economic-cooperation between Iran and Romania.

Montazeri Telegrams Support to Attacked Cities

LD130023 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Following the recent victories of the combatants of Islam and the subsequent bombing and missile attacks of the Iraqi Ba'thist Zionist regime on residential areas of our country, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri sent a telegram to the Friday imams of the cities attacked by Iraq. Ayatollah Montazeri paid tribute to the heroic people of these regions for their steadfastness and offered congratulations and condolences to the honorable families of those martyred during these attacks.

In the telegram, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri graciously said: The dear nation of Iran clearly realizes that Saddam, through his atrocities and crimes; by wasting countless men and material resources of the two nations of Iran and Iraq; through the encouragement of the satanic powers and rulers of the region; and by attacking residential areas and martyring innocent men, women, and children of these areas; is trying desperately to continue his tyrannic rule for several more days. It is hoped that with the succour of Almighty God, the selfless efforts of the warriors and Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic on battlefronts and the people's cooperation and resistance behind the battlelines, the rule of the 'Aflaqites and the sinister Iraqi Ba'th Party will come to an end as soon as possible.

Karbala-5 Said To Belie Anti-Tehran Propaganda

LD111955 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1702 GMT 11 Jan 87

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Operation "Karbala-5" started while the false show of strength of the Ba'thist, Zionist regime of Iraq and the propaganda maneuveres of its imperialist allies about defeating Operation "Karbala-4" were still in progress.

Considering the political situation in the region and the trend of the imposed war, one could decisively say that the sensitivity of this stage of the war and the events resulting from it are not unknown to any of the region's interested governments because the rightful demands of Islamic Iran and its insistence on the fullfilment of its three principle conditions for ending the aggression by the Zionist enemy are not at all vague or complex. [passage omitted]

For some time, through its lie-spreading mouthpieces, world arrogance has been singing this accursed song, to wit: that the forces of Islam have no hope regarding the military side of the war and no hope of imposing their Islamic and revolutionary will, and that Islamic Iran will be forced to agree to talks and a peaceful settlement of the war. [passage omitted]

Operation Karbala-5 has proved that if the global and regional protectors of Iraq's Ba'th Party do not heed the serious warnings of the Islamic Republic of Iran, sooner or later they will be faced with a fait accompli. Despite their arrogant way of thinking, they will witness the victory of the Islamic Revolution and the downfall of the pagan and warmongering Iraqi regime.

Clandestine Radio Comments

LD111308 (Clandestine) Radio of the Iranian Toilers in Persian 1530 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] Dear fellow countrymen: While the cries and lamentations of thousands of fathers, mothers, and dear ones of those killed in action during the futile "Karbala-4" operations could still be heard, the insane "Karbala-5" operations began in the early hours of Friday with units of the Islamic Republic carrying out on aggression against Iraqi territory in Shalamcheh. "Karbala-5," following the operations of "Karbala-4," began for two main reasons: First, under the cover of propaganda fire in support of such aggression, some achievements [of Karbala-5] may blot the futility of Karbala-4 operations from people's memories, and may boost the morale of the numerous victims who fear the outcome of such adventures. Further, it may put into question the Islamic conference in Kuwait. [passage omitted] The operations aim at a third evil and dangerous objective, [passage indistinct] begin to gain a strategic position along the southern sector before an extensive aggression may be mounted against the Iraqi territory. This is a point that cannot be ignored at such a sensitive time as the present, for not only would it result in a national tragedy for our country, but it would also threaten world peace and security.

It is in light of this threat that the Soviet Government, by virtue of its grave responsibility to safeguard peace and security in the world, in a statement addressed to (?the warring parties), the peoples of Iran and Iraq, and all the countries of the region [words indistinct]. [passage omitted]

Further on Combat Operations, Karbala 5

Iraqi Commander on 'Smashed' Brigade

LD121910 Tehran IRNA in English 1856 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Khatem-ol-Anbiya' Hq., Jan 12, IRNA — The systematic annihilation of the 96 Iraqi Infantry Brigade by the Muslim combatants was related by its captured Commander Lieutenant Colonel Jabir Salman Hasan, Monday in the Karbala-5 operation region. The Iraqi commander looking frightened was transferred behind the lines, after his battalion was total' smashed.

The Iraqi POW told IRNA that the personnel of Brigade 96 which was besieged for twenty-four hours north of Shalamcheh by the Islamic forces were either killed, wounded, or captured by the Iranian Muslim combatants.

Lt. Colonel Hasan said that he had repeatedly sent pleas to the commander of the Iraqi 11th Division to come to his help during the twenty-four-hour siege. But, he added, the division commander replied that he was not in a position to help Brigade 96, being himself tied down by the fighting.

1,290 Iraqi POW's have so far been transferred behind the fronts among whom are several ranking Iraqi officers. A large number of Iraqi officers have been killed on the battlefield.

Iraqi Aircraft Bomb Ilam Twice
LD121916 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] According to the Central News Unit and IRNA, the city of Ilam was subjected to aerial attacks twice this afternoon. The Iraqi planes, in addition to bombing residential areas, also bombed a hospital in this city.

Iraqi Installations Bombed
LD122125 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced that at 0830, 1120, and 1315 today fighter-bombers of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran bombed economic and military installations in Ramiyah [as heard], 'Aqra, Shaykh Sa'd, and Qarah-Tappah in Iraq, and safely returned to their bases.

2d Missile Fired at Baghdad
LD130353 Tehran IRNA in English 0350 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 13, IRNA — Iran fired a surface-to-surface missile at a trade center in Baghdad at 0:55 hours local time Tuesday (21:25 hours GMT Monday).

The missile, second since Iran's victorious operations Karbala-5 was launched in Shalamcheh region in the southern fronts early Friday, was in retaliation for Iraq's inhuman attacks on civilians in the Islamic Republic.

Further on Missile Attack
LD130415 Tehran IRNA in English 0410 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 13, IRNA — The missile unit of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) fired a surface-to-surface missile on a trade-economic center in the Iraqi capital in the midnight Monday (21:25 GMT). The attack was launched in response to the Baghdad rulers heinous crimes against civilians in the Islamic Republic.

After the Islamic combatants of Iran launched their ongoing victorious Karbala-5 operations in Shalamcheh region in the southern fronts early Friday and inflicted heavy blows on enemy troops, the desperate rulers in Baghdad once again resorted to cowardly attacks against innocent civilians in Iranian cities and towns.

Over the past four days, hundreds of civilians, mainly women and children, have lost their lives or [have been] wounded in repeated Iraqi air and missile attacks. In one instance alone, 66 children in a school for mentally retarded students in Borujerd (Lorestan Prov.) were massacred in an enemy missile attack on the city.

Iraq Warned of 'Crushing Blows'
LD130444 Tehran IRNA in English 0433 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 13, IRNA — The missile unit of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Tuesday warned the Baghdad rulers that in case their criminal military attacks on civilians in Iran continued, "we will deal more crushing blows on them." [passage omitted]

Iraqi missile and air attacks on civilian areas in the Islamic Republic since Iran's victorious operations Karbala-5 was launched in the southern front early Friday, has inflicted high casualties and damage on the people.

Whenever defeated in the war fronts, the Iraqi regime resorts to heinous acts in violation of all international conventions. Attacks on civilians, deployment of banned chemical weapons, and threatening of civil aviation are among acts Iraq has been perpetrating since Saddam Husayn of Iraq initiated his war of aggression against the newly-born Islamic Republic in 1980. However, the heroic resistance of the Muslim nation of Iran coupled with the faith and braveries of the Islamic combatants in the war fronts has foiled all enemy plots to force Islamic Iran to accept an imposed peace.

Fighters Bomb Three Iraqi Cities
LD130826 Tehran IRNA in English 0822 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 13, IRNA — Iranian jet fighters heavily bombed military, industrial, and economic installations in three northern Iraqi cities of Irbil, Rawanduz, and Hasban [name as received] Tuesday morning. A joint staff statement said that in three separate missions at 04:30, 04:32, and 05:45 GMT Tuesday, installations in the three said cities were pounded, inflicting heavy damage. The Iranian jet fighters returned to their base safely after carrying out their missions.

Iraqis Raid Esfahan; Kill 1
LD130831 Tehran IRNA in English 0820 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Esfahan, Jan, 13, IRNA — One person was martyred and nine others were injured in the Iraqi air raid on the central city of Esfahan Tuesday morning. The Iraqi fighters bombed residential areas of Esfahan at 05:05 hours local time (01:35 hours GMT). A number of homes were damaged.

Iraqi Presidential Guard 'Smashed'

LD131035 Tehran IRNA in English 1022 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Karbala-5 Operational Region, Jan 13, IRNA — Iranian Army aviation planes in several well coordinated missions in Karbala-5 operational region Tuesday morning dealt irreparable blows on Iraq's Presidential Guard. Brigades 2 and 3 of the Iraqi Presidential Guard, which attempted a counterattack against the Muslim forces of Iran in west and south of the Fish Lake, early Tuesday morning were severly smashed in the bombing. Battalions 2, 3, and 5 of the Presidential Guard due to chaotic state Monday were fighting one another. More than 80 percent of one of the battalions was destroyed and a large number of them were killed.

Meanwhile, 70 percent of Battalion 2 of Armoured Brigade 2 of the Presidential Guards was smashed by the Muslim forces of Iran Monday. 70-90 percent of Battalions 2 and 3 of the Brigade 5 of the Presidential Guard was smashed by the heavy blows of the Iranian forces.

Iraqi Brigade 68 'Totally Smashed'

LD131046 Tehran IRNA in English 1040 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Karbala-5 Operational Region, Jan 13, IRNA — Brigade 68 of the Iraqi special forces was totally smashed by the Muslim forces of Iran Monday night. The Iranian forces in their overnight operation against the Iraqi forces smashed the brigade, killing, injuring, or capturing all its personnel. The remaining personnel of the brigade fled the battle field.

The brigade suffered losses totalling 80 percent, in the Sunday night and Monday attacks. It was later reorganised. The commander of the brigade, Colonel Sa'adi Hamel Ghidan [name as received], was killed in the Karbala-5 operation now in its fifth day.

Communique No 8 Issued

LD131106 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Communique No 8 of the Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, the center of the joint operations of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, was issued today, as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. O combative and self-sacrificing naiton. In continuation of the triumphant operation Karbala-5, last night the brave and self-sacrificing combatants and the self-sacrificing offspring of Islam attacked the criminal enemy on two axes, west of Shalamcheh. In a heroic battle with the enemy, they advanced deep inside Iraq, dealt heavy blows, and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy.

During the operation, the mighty combatants of Islam destroyed 40 percent of a commando brigade of the 7th Corps and crushed and destroyed the remnants of the 68th Brigade of the special forces, which had been regrouped and dispatched to the sector.

More than 1,000 other enemy troops were killed or injured during last night's successful operation, bringing the total number [killed or injured] since the start of the operation to 17,500.

Dozens of tanks and personnel carriers and a considerable number of vehicles of the Zionist regime of Baghdad were also destroyed.

During this victorious operation, the combative forces of Islam liberated another section of the operation theater and brought it under their control.

By relying on endless divine strength, the combatants of Islam presently are strengthening the captured positions. By bringing enemy assembly points under heavy fire, they have deprived them of any movement.

[Signed] The Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, the center of the joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Iraqis Bomb More Residential Areas

LD131138 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the residential areas of the towns of Esfahan, at 0503 today, Dezful, at 2130 last night, and Khorramabad, at 1130 today, were bombed by the aircraft of the Zionist regime of Iraq.

According to this report, a number of our compatriots were martyred or injured in these attacks and a number of houses, including one of historic value, were wrecked.

IRNA Reports 12 Jan Operations

LD121756 Tehran IRNA in English 1741 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Karbala-5 Operational Theater, Jan 12, IRNA — Heavy columns of dense black smoke and blazing fires engulfed the battlefields as the Muslim combatants, continuing their historic advance inside Iraq on the fourth day of the operations, smashed all enemy counter-attacks, including one directed by Iraqi strongman Saddam himself, late last night.

In a day of pitched battles in the Shalamcheh region the enemy casualty toll stood at 16,500 Monday, among them high ranking officers. So far 1,290 POW's have been transferred behind the lines and 34 Iraqi planes downed.

After the mopping-up operations, the Muslim combatants cleared the Iraqi-laid minefields and in a display of lofty Islamic spirit gave a decent burial to the enemy corpses according to Islamic rites.

Fighter-bombers lending effective support to the Ground Forces raided enemy troop concenterations at 07:15, 07:45, 08:06, 09:25, 10:10, 10:45, 12:45 GMT, Monday.

Helicopter gunships proved a perfect foil, harassing enemy troops and destroying over 100 tanks and personnel carriers in the 144 sorties flown so far since the start of the operations last Friday.

The various Iraqi brigades suffering damage are as follows:

Infantry Brigade 96, 50 p.c.
Brigade 8 of the Special Forces, 70 p.c.
2,3 Batt. of Brigade 5, Pres. Guards, 80 p.c.
2,3 Batt. of Armoured Brigade 2, Pres. Guards, 70 p.c.
Brigade 68 of the Special Forces
Brigade 76

The Muslim combatants also inflicted substantial damage on the Iraqi crack Al-Qa'Qa' Brigade killing 200 troops.

Iraqi General Abdul Wahid Mahmoud Towfiq [spelling as received] was found slain on the battlefield and Commander Jaber Salman Hasan [spelling as received] of the 3rd Battalion of Infantry Brigade 96 of the 3rd Corps was taken prisoner.

3 Iraqi Counterattacks 'Routed'

LD121735 Tehran IRNA in English 1716 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Khatem-ol Anbiya' Hq., Jan 12, IRNA — Muslim combatants of Iran completely routed three Iraqi counterattacks, when enemy forces vainly attempted to penetrate the strong positions of the Iranian forces on Monday. The Iraqi forces sustained heavy casualties and damage and were forced to withdraw by the Iranian Muslim combatants.

10 Killed in Eslamabad-e Gharb Raid

LD121725 Tehran IRNA in English 1645 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Bakhtaran, Jan 12, IRNA — Ten civilians were martyred and thirty others wounded during the Sunday night's Iraqi air attack on Eslamabad-e-Gharb, according to reports from this western border city, Monday. Some 40 resident units including commercial shops, as well as six educational institutions were destroyed or damaged in the savage Iraqi attack.

Meanwhile, five civilians were martyred and 34 others wounded in Sunday night's missile attack of the Baghdad regime on Ilam. Some residential units were also destroyed in the attack.

Gunships Destroy Iraqi 'Headquarters'

LD121626 Tehran IRNA in English 1622 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Karbala-5 Region, Jan 12, IRNA — Helicopter gunships of the Iranian Army aviation unit (Havaniroz) have inflicted heavy casualties and losses on the Iraqi forces during 144 sorties flown since the outset of the Karbala-5 offensive early Friday.

According to an aviation field commander here Monday, the helicopter gunships played a significant role in pounding Iraqi troop concentrations and destroying scores of tanks and personnel carriers as well as 100 light and heavy vehicles of the enemy.

The commander said that the helicopters in perfect coordination with the Iranian fighter-bombers have routed different Iraqi brigades in Shalamcheh including the noteworthy destruction of an enemy tactical headquarters.

33d Iraqi Plane Downed

LD121506 Tehran IRNA in English 1459 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Karbala-5 Operational Region, Jan 12, IRNA — Another enemy plane was shot down by anti-aircraft fire of the Islamic combatants Monday afternoon, bringing to 33 the number of Iraqi planes downed since Iran's Karbala-5 operations began in Shalamcheh region, early Friday.

"As soon as an Iraqi fighter appears in the skies of the operational theater, it is set ablaze by Iranian fire and reduced to a heep of junk," an anti-aircraft officer told IRNA. He advised Iraqi pilots to bail out and surrender to the Islamic combatants or "face death."

34th Iraqi Plane Downed; Pilot Held

LD121532 Tehran IRNA in English 1530 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Jan 12, IRNA — An Iraqi F-1 Mirage fighter was shot down by Iranian anti-aircraft fire in Karbala-5 operational theater Monday afternoon. This brings to 34 the number of enemy planes downed by Iran's Islamic combatants since operation Karbala-5 began in Shalamcheh region in the southern fronts early Friday.

The wounded pilot of the Mirage fighter was taken captive by the Iranian combatants.

'Over 100' Killed in Iraqi Raids

LD121338 Tehran IRNA in English 1320 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 12, IRNA — Over 100 civilians have so far been martyred and more than 400 others wounded in the latest round of inhuman Iraqi air raids on the Iranian cities of Arak, Borujerd, and Esfahan.

In Arak, Central Province, the Iraqi warplanes bombed five residential areas in the city martyring 34 civilians and wounding 165 others. Some houses and business centers were also devasted or damaged.

In Borujerd, Lorestan Province, 60 people were martyred and 220 others wounded as four residential areas were bombarded by enemy jet fighters. Some houses and shops were also destroyed or damaged in the air attack.

In Bakhtaran Province, seven persons were martyred and 20 others wounded in the Iraqi bombing of residential areas.

The Iraqi air raid on residential areas in Esfahan Monday left two martyrs and five wounded.

Enemy warplanes also tried to raid the cities of Qom, Khorramabad, and Kashan but failed and were forced to flee by heavy Iranian anti-aircraft fire. The sounding of red alert siren on Tehran radio at 12:14 hours (08:44 GMT) Monday was due to the violation of the air space of the holy city of Qom by Iraqi warplanes.

Simultaneously with the Iranian great victories in the Karabala-5 operations, the criminal rulers in Baghdad whose forces are unable to facec the Muslim combatants on the battlefields once more have resorted to inhuman military attacks on the Iranian people.

Combatants Liberate Shalamcheh Areas

LD131352 Tehran IRNA in English 1348 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Karbala-5 Operational Region, Jan 13, IRNA — Iran's Islamic combatants have so far liberated 100 sq. kms in Shalamcheh region in the southern fronts where they launched their victorious Karbala-5 operational early Friday. The liberated areas are now under full control of the Islamic forces of Iran who have fully stabilised their positions in the region.

In their advance in the Shalamcheh operational region Monday night, the Islamic combatants of Iran succeeded in fortifying their defence lines in the region.

Shalamcheh Outposts 'Taken Over'

LD131431 Tehran IRNA in English 1410 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Karbala-5 Operational Region, Jan 13, IRNA — With the liberation of the strategic region of Shalamcheh by Iran's Islamic combatants Monday night, all the border outposts in the region were also taken over by the Iranian forces.

The Iranian combatants have liberated 100 sq kms of Iraqi territory in Shalamcheh region in the ongoing Karbala-5 operations.

Forces Advance 10 KM Toward Basra

LD131434 Tehran IRNA in English 1423 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Karbala-5 Operational Region, Jan 13, IRNA — The Islamic combatants of Iran, by leaving behind the strongest enemy fortifications and defence lines in the operational region, have advanced 10 kms inside Iraqi positions towards Basra. While advancing the Iranian forces are stabilising their defence lines in the region. The Muslim forces of Iran hold superiority in the operational theater suppressing any enemy movements.

Defense Lines East of Basra Fall

LD131439 Tehran IRNA in English 1432 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Karbala-5 Operational Region, Jan 13, IRNA — The strongest joint defense lines of Iraq's Third, Fourth, and Seventh Corps, east of Basra fell Tuesday morning.

Muslim combatants of Iran advanced on Iraqi positions in Karbala-5 operational theater and crushed 10 kilometers of the strongest defense lines of the Iraqi Army along the Fish Lake, early Tuesday. During the assault, Infantry Brigade 28 of the Eight Army which was in charge of supporting the defensive line, was completely destroyed and all its personnel killed or wounded.

In an urgent message to the Seventh Corps stationed west of the Arvand River, the command headquarters of the Third Corps asked for emergency assistance. Later, a commando brigade of the Seventh Corps entered the operational region and in hand-to-hand fighting, some 500 Iraqi commandos were killed or injured.

Following the Monday night operation, the defensive line east of Basra, referred to as the "Iron Fort" in the Iraqi Army, fell. It had been erected after Iran's Bait-ul-Moqaddas operation (liberation of Khorramshahr) by Iraqi Army experts under the supervision of foreign advisors. The 10-kilometer defensive line, which included various embankments and concrete fortifications was the strongest defensive line east of Basra.

Communiques Detail Recent Combat Operations

No 2,711

LD091718 Tehran IRNA in English 1705 GMT 9 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 9, IRNA — Fighter bombers of the Iranian Air Force heavily bombarded strongholds and positions of Iraqi troops in the Karbala-5 theatre six times Friday. All attacking planes returned to their bases safely after inflicting heavy casualties and losses upon the enemy.

Announcing the above Friday evening, Communique Number 2,711 of the Joint Staff Command of the Islamic Republic Armed Forces added that the aerial attacks were successfully carried out at 05:30, 06:40, 07:22, 08:22, 09:03, and 11:00 GMT successively.

Iran's naval forces in the Hormuz Strait, intercepted and searched six foreign ships and oil tankers but allowed them to proceed their voyage since no Iraqi-bound goods were identified.

The Joint Staff communique also added that the Iraqi [words indistinct] considerable losses during Thursday and Friday when their strongholds and logistics columns along the border war zones, from the northwestern fronts down to the southern operational region came under Iranian fire.

In these operations, parts of enemy defensive lines and troops concentration centres were set ablaze by the Iranian Muslim forces.

Also, Iranian Gendarmerie forces halted engineering operations and movements of enemy troops, and silenced Iraqi fire, inflicting more damage and casualties upon the enemy during Thursday and Friday.

The southern Iranian port city of Abadan in Khuzestan Province, was subjected to heavy Iraqi weapons fire and sustained some damage during the past week.

No 2,712

LD101730 Tehran IRNA in English 1713 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 10, IRNA — At least 80 Iranian students were martyred and wounded at a school in Borujerd, Lorestan Province, hit by an Iraqi surface-to-surface missile Saturday, said a military communique released by the Joint Staff Command of Iran's Armed Forces here.

Joint Staff Communique Number 2,712 said that the Iranian cities of Nahavand in Hamadan Province, Andimeshk, and Dezful in Khuzestan Province and Esfahan were either bombed by Iraqi warplanes or hit by enemy surface-to-surface missiles on Saturday. Intruding Iraqi war planes bombed Esfahan and Andimeshk on Friday wounding five civilians and inflicting some damage on the cities, said the communique.

The military communique furthermore said that Iraqi forces suffered substantial casualties and losses when their troop concentration sites were heavily bombed by Iranian jet fighters in the Karbala-5 operational region four times Saturday. The Iranian fighters returned safely to bases after successfully carrying out the bombing missions which took place at 09:30, 10:20, 11:10, and 11:55 hours (06:00, 06:50, 07:40 and 08:25 hours GMT) Saturday, it said.

Three more Iraqi warplanes were shot down by Iranian anti-aircraft fire in the Karbala-5 operations at 08:01, 08:07, and 08:25 hours (04:31, and 04:37, and 04:55 hours GMT) Saturday.

The communique said that enemy jet fighters mistakenly dropped chemical bombs on their own positions in the eastern Basra and western bank of the Arvand River three times Friday morning, apparently a result of bitter defeats enemy forces sustained in the Karbala-5 operations launched by Iranian combatants early Friday.

The Joint Staff communique said that many civilians were martyred and wounded in Friday's Iraqi air raid on the southern Iranian city of Susangerd.

In continuation of the successful Iranian Karbala-5 operations, Iranian forces smashed many Iraqi counterattacks in the operational region Saturday routing enemy troops, the communique said. Muslim forces of Iran are now fortifying their positions, shelling Iraqi fortifications, and continuing their battle with the Ba'thist troops.

Elsewhere in other fronts, Iranian Muslim troops opened heavy fire on Iraqi reinforcement armoured units in Yabis, southern fronts Friday inflicting heavy losses on it and halting its movement. In the western fronts, the communique said, parts of Iraqi positions were set ablaze and several of their tanks and bunkers destroyed by Iranian artillery fire on Friday. A number of Iraqi soldiers were killed and a military bridge of theirs destroyed in Kani-Sheykh.

Iranian Gendarmerie forces in artillery duels with Iraqi troops in parts of the southern and western fronts on Friday blasted an Iraqi munitions dump in Sumar and destroyed some enemy bunkers elsewhere in these fronts.

According to the communique, Iraqi forces sustained heavy casualties and losses and one of their motor pools was set ablaze in the northwestern fronts by Iranian artillery fire on Friday.

Many Iraqi weapons and communication equipment were seized and transferred behind the fronts by a convoy of Iranian patrols on Saturday, said the communique. Movements of Iraqi motorized and armoured units were checked in Naft Shahr, Zurbatiyah, Mehran, and Badra on Friday.

No 2,713

LD111622 Tehran IRNA In English 1613 GMT 11 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 11, IRNA — Some civilians were martyred and wounded in Iraqi missile and air attacks on the cities of Nahavand, Borujerd, Ramhormoz, and Dezful at 12:00 and 12:30 hours (08:30 and 09:00 hours GMT) Sunday, said a military communique released by the Joint Staff Command of Iran's Armed Forces here.

Joint Staff Communique Number 2,713 said that Iraqi forces suffered substantial casualties and losses as Iranian jet fighters heavily bombed their positions and troops concentration sites in the Karbala-5 operational theater twice at 10:44 and 14:10 hours (07:14 and 10:40 hours GMT) Sunday. The fighters returned safely to bases.

Iranian fighter bombers also bombarded Iraq's economic and military centers in the Iraqi cities of 'Amadiyah, Diyanah, Al-Sa'diyah, Al-Miqdadiya, and 'Ali al-Gharbi four times Sunday inflicting considerable casualties and damage on enemy troops, the communique said.

The fighters returned to base safely after carrying out the bombing missions which occured at 12:47, 12:52, 12:55 and 15:30 hours (09:17, 09:22, 09:25 and 12:00 hours GMT).

Elsewhere, the communique said that seven more Iraqi warplanes were shot down by Iranian anti-aircraft fire Sunday.

Iraqi armoured units were grounded in the Karbala-5 operational region by heavy Iranian artillery fire on Saturday and Sunday, the communique said.

In the western fronts, the communique said, many Iraqi soldiers were killed and one of their tanks, a key military bridge, two heavy vehicles, and one munitions dump were destroyed by Iranian artillery fire Saturday.

Iraqi forces sustained several casualties and one motor pool of theirs was destroyed in artillery duels with Iranian Muslim combatants on Saturday. Heavy damage was also inflicted on Iraqi supply routes and military headquarters, the communique concluded.